FOOD STAMP CHANGE

NEWSLETTER

Promotion Issue April 1980

FOOD STAMP CHANGE TOKEN REVERSES

The token reverses shown here are those made by Plasco of La Crosse, Wisconsin. According to David G. Gladfelter (see TAMS Journal, Dec. 1978, p. 249) the company was known as Personalized Plastics until April, 1978. There are a number of other stock token reverses in the Food Stamp Change collecting field, but for the purposes of this article those shown will be the topic for this piece. There are also other stock reverses made by this company and which were used for Food Stamp Change (FSC) Tokens. The major ones shown came in two languages, english and spanish, that I know of. The latter reverses were used widely in Puerto Rico as well as some of the english versions. It would be interesting to know if any spanish-language reverses were used in mainland U.S. localities among the many spanish-speaking communities. The study of these reverses is important because of their almost overwhelming use in recent years. Invariably these tokens in all denominations, that is those issued by this company, were 28mm in diameter.

English Language Reverses

The english reverse has two varieties that I have found. Their common legend is:

(a)

(b)

FOOD STAMP CREDIT/ 1¢/ IN ELIGIBLE FOODS

The legend on reverse (a) is 23mm across. The letters are 2mm tall. Reverse (b) is 25mm across and its letters are 3mm tall. Reverse (a) is the older of the two, and nearly all of the tokens with this reverse are well or badly worn that I have seen. There seem to be fewer of them, also. Reverse (b) was issued at least as early as 1975 and probably earlier. Reverse (a), and I am guessing, dates back to 1970 or earlier. Reverse (b) also has a sub-variety with "thick" and "thin" letters but the differences are small and must be seen rather than measured in order to get a sense of the differences.

Spanish Language Reverses

There are two major types and one of those with two typeface varieties. The varieties are as follows:

(continued next page)

(1)

(2)

PROGRAMA DE ALIMENTOS/ 1¢/ PARA ALIMENTOS AUTORIZADOS
(tr. Food Program For Authorized Foods)

Reverse (1) has letters 1mm tall, and (2) has letters 2mm tall.

PROGRAMA DE ALIMENTOS/ 1¢/ PARA ALIMENTOS AUTORIZADOS
(tr. Coupon Program For Authorized Foods)

The second type has only one variety to the best of my knowledge. I have no impression as to when any of the reverses were used. Comments on these or other reverses as well as articles are welcome.

EDITOR'S NOTES

I first began collecting Food Stamp Change (FSC) Tokens when I found a black one-cent token from the Go-Getters' Market in the gutter near where I work. I specialize in San Francisco exonumia and it was thus doubly fun to be surprised like that. When mail bid lists began to appear in the TANS Journal some two years ago I used them to locate other stores in town. That activity has since been extended to other towns in Northern California, and even to Puerto Rico where I went on vacation. I usually buy up all of the store's remaining stock where I can. Usually this way I can find tokens of other stores, varieties, errors, and have stock to trade or sell. I want to encourage readers here to do the same and make the tokens broadly available to all collectors. The tokens are mostly still there in the stores, sitting in cigar boxes or drawers behind the counters.

* * *

Subscribers' ads that reached me after March 22 will appear in the next issue.

* * *

Sam Ruggeri of Canton, Ohio, corrected me saying "You indicate that these tokens and scrip came in 1¢, 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, & 50¢. I have some in 2¢ and 3¢ denominations. I also have many in aluminum as well as plastic."

* * *

This newsletter is really a trial effort to see how much interest there is in this field. I suspect that for the moment it is moderate, but quickly growing. The first issues that I will publish will be somewhat primitive, that is done on my home typewriter (not electric), using Xerox copies and rubbings in the place of photos. This will certainly keep costs down. If interest is strong I can try to improve the quality.

(continued on page 4)

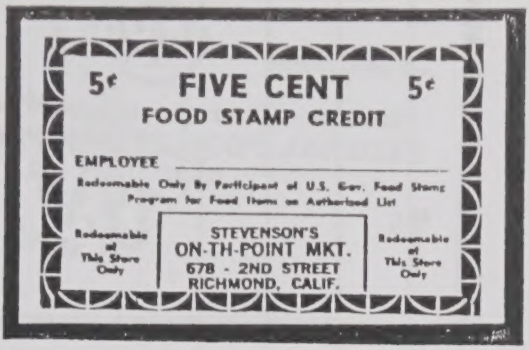
FOOD STAMP CHANGE
NEWSLETTER

is Edited and
Published quarterly by

Jerry F. Schimmel
P.O. Box 40888
San Francisco, CA 94140

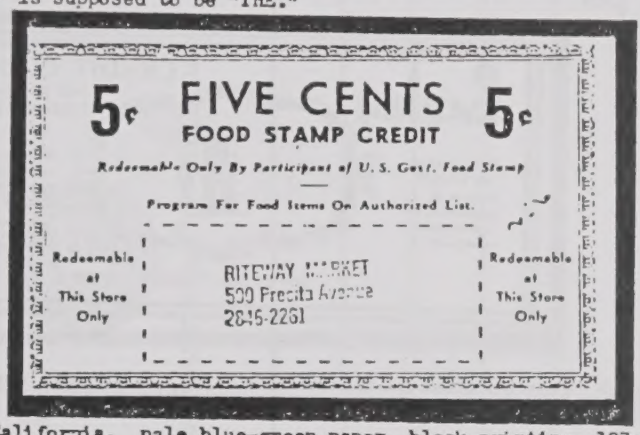
A subscription is $3.85 annually. Subscribers can submit one free 25-word ad each issue and which must be re-submitted for each issue. Full page ads cost $7.50, half-page ads are $4.00, and quarter-page ads are $2.50. Copy must be submitted by June 15, Sept. 15, Dec. 15, and March 15 to be published. Full page material submitted must be 11½x7½ in. Newsletters will be mailed before the Tenth of the following month.

SOME TYPES OF PAPER SCRIP



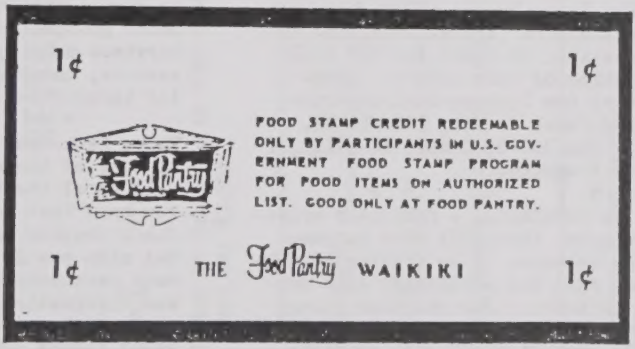
Richmond, California, yellow paper, black printing, 88x56mm.

This is a stock slip with the store owner's name printed in the lower box. Note the error. "TH" is supposed to be "THE."



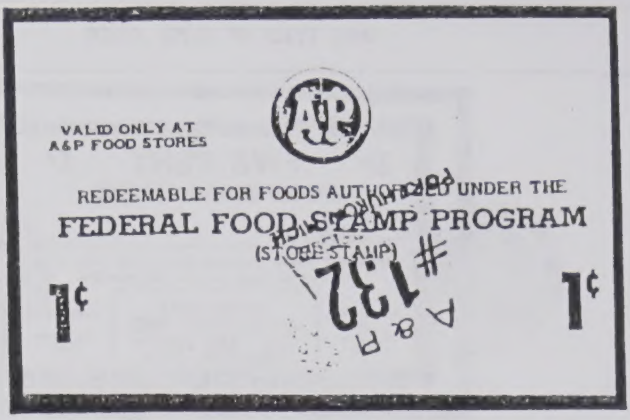
San Francisco, California, pale blue-green paper, black printing, 107x68mm.

Another stock slip with the name rubberstamped in black. This comes from a store in my own neighborhood.



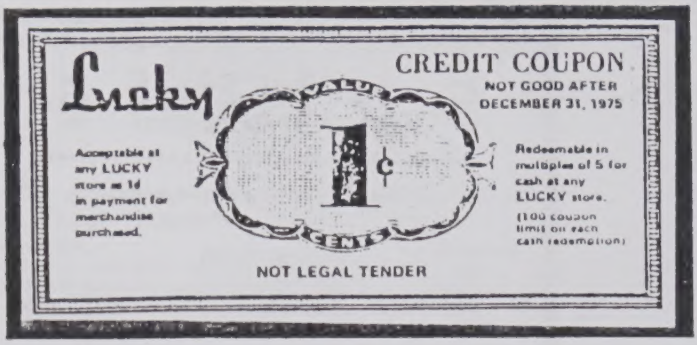
Honolulu, Hawaii, pale green paper (crosshatch watermark), black printing, 107x61mm.

MORE PAPER SCRIP



Port Huron, Michigan, white paper, black printing, 109x70mm, rubberstamped in black.

Another stock style. The rubberstamp reads: A&P/ #132/ 1639 (?) GARFIELD/ PORT HURON, MICH.



Not Local, (but obtained in the San Francisco, California area). Pale orange paper, magenta printing, 119x108mm.

MORE EDITOR'S NOTES

Thanks to Barry Bender of the Merchant Token Collectors' Association, 752 N. 74th, Seattle, WA 98103 for his full page mention of this effort. Lloyd Wagaman of the Indiana-Kentucky-Ohio Token and Medal Society (IKO-TAMS), Rte. #1, Box 195-D, Camby, IN 46113, is planning a mention.

* * *

As far as developing a collector organization goes, that will have to come from you readers. I am willing to publish and edit the newsletter on a pay-as-you-go basis. For the time being this will have eight pages with a later possible expansion. I will maintain what are now standard policies of the free ad, mavericks columns and membership lists, in addition to feature articles. If any of you wish to begin an organization, I will publish news about your activities and negotiate if you wish to take over the newsletter.

It seems to me, however, that FSC Token and Scrip collecting is mainly regional and that organizational efforts should be directed mainly at putting together local groups. In any event a newsletter survives only by the efforts of its readers, subscribers, and contributors (of information and articles).

* * *

There is a need for knowledge about the history of these tokens and scrip as well as of the Food Stamps themselves. Few know that not only was there a Food Stamp program in the 1960's and 1970's, but also one in the 1930's during which many merchants issued their own tokens. Who has information on these? What were some of the more contemporary regulations about tokens and scrip? Who were their makers and/or printers? What were the various regulations governing the use of the different kinds of change? Which agency promulgated them? It is the answers to these kinds of questions that make the materials for this kind of newsletter.

(please clip and mail)

FOOD STAMP CHANGE

NEWSLETTER

Mail with your check to:

JERRY F. SCHIMMEL
P. O. BOX 40888
SAN FRANCISCO, CA. 94140

Yes, I wish to subscribe to FOOD STAMP CHANGE NEWSLETTER for 1980-81. Enclosed is my check for $3.85.

NAME: _____ Date: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, and ZIP: _____

FOOD STAMP CHANGE COLLECTING INTERESTS: _____

_____

OTHER COLLECTING INTERESTS: _____

_____

_____

MAVERICKS/ FICHAS DE LUGARES DESCONOCIDOS

1. Colmado Puerto Rico

Black plastic, 28mm, white letters.
O: COLMADO/ PUERTO/ RICO
R: PROGRAMA DE CUPONES/ 1¢/
PARA ALIMENTOS AUTORIZADOS

This from the west coast town of Aguadilla in Puerto Rico. I bought up the few remaining pieces from the shopkeeper.

2. Mt. View Food Centers

Green plastic, 28mm, white letters.
O: MT. VIEW/ (mountain scene)/
FOOD CENTERS (in an oval)
R: FOOD STAMP CREDIT/ 5¢/ IN
ELIGIBLE FOODS

I obtained this from a local Collector. There is a Mountain View, California, but so far there is no evidence of such a store in the area.

3. Parkview IGA and Affiliated Stores

Gold anodized aluminum, 25.5mm, reeded edge.
O: FOOD STAMP/ GOOD ONLY AT/
PARKVIEW/ IGA AND/ AFFILIATED
STORES/ 1¢/ CREDIT TOKEN
R: FOOD STAMP PROGRAM/ 1¢/FOR
ELIGIBLE/FOODS ONLY/ MORE
NUTRITION FROM ABUNDANCE

This was sent in by Lloyd Waganan of Camby, Indiana. He says it was dug up in Ohio. There is a Parkview, Ohio, in Cuyahoga County. This may be a clue. When was this one made? Who made it?

4. Supermercados SM

Black plastic, 28mm, white letters.
O: SUPERMERCADOS/ SM
R: PROGRAMA DE ALIMENTOS/ 1¢/
PARA ALIMENTOS AUTORIZADOS

I bought these from the Caribe Philatelic Center in Puerto Rico by mail. The Puerto Rico telephone book shows four listings in the Rio Piedras area south of San Juan.

5. Supermercados Co-Op

Yellow plastic, 42mm, green letters.
O: SUPERMERCADOS CO-OP/ 5¢/COOP.
FEDERICO PIZARRO/COOP. CONSUMI
DORES DEL SUR/COOP. METROPOLITANA
DE CONSUMO
R: NO NEGOCIABLE/5¢/SOLO REDIMIBLE/
POR ALIMENTOS ELEGIBLES/EN LOS
SUPERMERCADOS CO-OP

Another Puerto Rican token. Probably from the San Juan metropolitan area.

SUBSCRIBERS' ADS

Interested in all PENNSYLVANIA Food Stamp Tokens and Scrip. Herman Aqua, 487 Bennett St., Luzerne, PA 18709.

Wanted: Food Stamp Tokens from INDIANA. Will purchase or try to trade. Lloyd E. Wagaman, Route 1, Box 195-D, Camby, IN 46113.

Food Stamp Change Tokens Wanted: GEORGIA issues only . Send description and price in first letter. R.W. Colbert, 4156 Livsey Rd., Tucker, GA 30084.

Wanted: Food Stamp Change Tokens and Scrip from State of MAINE. Will swap change and scrip on an even basis. H. Elston, P.O. Box 521, Loring AFB, ME 04751

Wanted-tokens with word "DAIRY" or "MILK" in business name on obverse. Have some other sets and odd tokens to to trade, but prefer to buy outright. Melvin Reiter, 6482 Newton Rd., East Lansing, MI 48823.

IOWA Food Stamp Credit Tokens wanted for private collection. Lewis K. Ferguson, 1605 Roosevelt Ave., Ames, IA 50010.

CALIFORNIA (northern), NEVADA, GUAM, VIRGIN IS., and PUERTO RICO FSC Tokens wanted. J. Schimmel, P.O. Box 40888, San Francisco, CA 94140.

Wanted to buy - FOOD STAMP CHANGE. Send list. George Van Trump, Jr., P.O. Box 26523, Lakewood, CO 80226.

Wanted - COLORADO Food Stamp change coupons. Also INDIANA and MICHIGAN. Ken Hallenbeck, P.O. Box 15, Colorado Springs, CO 80901.

A.N.A. MUSEUM is looking for Food Stamp Change coupons and tokens. Do you have duplicates? Why not donate one or a set to the ANA Museum for posterity? Write ANA Museum, P.O. Box 2366, Colorado Springs, CO 80901.

ALASKA Food Stamp Change Tokens, Scrip, & Chits - buy, sell, & trade. ALASKA ONLY! Please don't waste your time or mine on other locations. David G. Fronius, P.O. Box 4-2814, Anchorage, AK 99509.

NEW JERSEY Food Stamp Tokens Wanted. Also all other NJ medals, tokens, wood nickels, etc. Please write. Gary Patterson, R.D. 3, Toms River, NJ 08753.

Wanted - Food Stamp Tokens from ARIZONA, GUAM, IDAHO, NEVADA, OKLAHOMA, VERMONT, VIRGIN ISLANDS, and WEST VIRGINIA. Al Zaika, Box 65, Bellmawr, NJ 08031.

Collection FOOD STAMP CHANGE. 2210 different pieces from 47 states, many old and rare. Price: $1500. Information for a large SASE. Elmer Wright, 805 Cactus, Yuma, AZ 85364.

PUERTO RICO tokens wanted. Edward Roehrs, R.F.D. 852, Arecibo, PR 00612.

Wanted: Food Stamp Change Tokens from OHIO. Will trade for them or buy. Sam Ruggeri, P.O. Box 145, Canton, OH 44701.

Free samples of FOOD STAMP CHANGE Tokens or Scrip for an SASE. 100 different Food Stamp Tokens for $35. Auctions of Food Stamp Tokens available. Write Paul Cunningham, Box 1, Tecumseh, MI 49286.

Wanted - Food Stamp Tokens and related items from PUERTO RICO only. Please send list and prices to Sr. Efraín Archilla-Diez, P.O. Box C, Humacao, PR 00661.

Wanted - Food Stamp Change Tokens from FLORIDA. Will buy or trade. N.R. Mack, P.O. Box 395, Goose Creek, SC 29445.

PUERTO RICO Tokens wanted. Dr. F.J. Zamora, Box 119, Mayagüez, PR 00708.

ILLINOIS Tokens wanted. Albert E. Kramer, 2601 Simpson St., Evanston, IL 60201.

DEALER in U.S. and Foreign Coins and Tokens, Numismatic Literature. Dan Rusnak, SIGN OF THE DOLLAR, P.O. Box 327, Sparks, NV 89431.

PUERTO RICO Tokens wanted. Thomas Golden, P.O. Box 274, Escondido, CA 92025.

NEW YORK STATE Tokens wanted. Gary Pipher, P.O. Box 217, Johnson City, NY 13790.

FOOD STAMP TOKENS Wanted. Rolla R. Ross, 96 Valley Rd., Cos Cob, CT 06807.

For an SASE
A List of

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
FOOD STAMP CHANGE TOKENS
(Some Puerto Rico,
a handful of St. Louis, MO)

J. Schimmel
P.O. Box 40888
San Francisco, CA 94140

This list gets updated as I increase my stock in Calif. tokens. Many new towns added recently.

Wanted: FSC Tokens from WINONA, MN. Have some Piggly Wiggly Winona pieces and others from La Crosse. David E. Schulz, 503 E. Howard St., Winona, MN 55987.

Notice: IOWA tokens, all types, wanted. Have a wide range of duplicates. Robert Lubetkin, 3660 Grand, Des Moines, IA 50312